

GARSTANG
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1960



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"HERALD"
PRESTON

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Chairman of the Council:

COUNCILLOR J. G. SHORROCK, J.P.

Public Health Committee:

THE WHOLE OF THE MEMBERS OF
THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman:

COUNCILLOR J. PRESTON

Vice-Chairman:

COUNCILLOR H. THORNTON

(Died 5th December, 1960)

Clerk of the Council:

H. BOND, A.C.C.S.

Medical Officer of Health (Part Time):

ANDREW B. TAYLOR, M.B., Ch.B.

Chief Public Health Inspector:

A. SMITHSON, C.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors

F. C. WESTON, C.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

J. H. COOKSON, C.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Clerk:

MISS S. HAMPSON

ANNUAL REPORT

of the Medical Officer of Health

for the Year 1960.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Garstang Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting for your consideration my twentieth Annual Report for the year 1960, together with the vital statistics relating thereto.

The population of the district continues to increase and the health of the residents remains satisfactory.

Although the statistics show an increase in the number of births there was also an appreciable rise in the number of deaths recorded, particularly in the age group of 65 years and over. Approximately 76 per cent. of the total deaths were within this group.

The Infant Mortality Rate was higher than in the previous year — eight deaths being recorded as against three in 1959.

Infectious disease notifications were considerably less and no case of poliomyelitis or diphtheria was recorded. It is strongly recommended that every support should be given to the immunisation schemes which are available for protection against infectious diseases.

Improvements to houses continued steadily throughout the year, particularly with the aid of “Discretionary” and “Standard” Grants.

The majority of the houses within the rural district are well served with a supply of high quality water from the Fylde Water Board. The Nether Wyresdale scheme for approximately fifty houses and farms was commenced in October at an estimated cost of £26,524.

The Council is ever conscious of its responsibilities under the Public Health Act for providing adequate sewers and treatment plants. Schemes for the parishes of Hambleton, Stalmine and Pilling have been proposed, and also a new sewage disposal works at Scorton.

The policy of the Council to encourage light industry to the district has proved successful and unemployment is negligible.

I would like to express my thanks to the Chief Public Health Inspector and the staff of the Health Department, and also to the Clerk of the Council, for their co-operation and assistance during the year.

I remain, Yours faithfully,

ANDREW B. TAYLOR,
Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Position ...	Latitude 53° 54" North.	Longitude 2° 47" West.	
Elevation above sea level ...	0 feet to 1,675 feet.		
Geological formation...	Eastern Highlands—Millstone grit. Western Lowlands—Glacial clay on triassic sandstone with patches of alluvium.		
Chief Industries carried on in the Area ...	Mainly Agriculture and Poultry; Egg Packing and Poultry Dressing; Milk Processing and Cheese Making; Textile Manufacturing; Paper Making and Pre-Cast Products. Several men are employed in the building trades, and a number of residents are employed in the neighbouring towns.		
Area (Acres) ...	...	...	57,491
Population (Census 1951) ...	...	...	12,706
Registrar-General's Estimated mid-year Home Population, 1960			13,820
Density of population per acre ...	...	...	.24
Number of Inhabited Houses (Census 1951) ...	...	...	3,643
Number of Inhabited Houses at the end of 1960 according to Rate Books ...	...	...	4,353
Average number of persons per house ...	...	...	3.2
Rateable Value ...	...	...	£163,512
Sum represented by a penny rate ...	...	...	£688

VITAL STATISTICS

				<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Live Births	Legitimate	...	...	234	103	131
	Illegitimate	...	...	9	6	3
				243	109	134
Still Births (Legitimate)	...	...	...	4	3	1
Deaths	...	...	...	191	105	86

Infant Deaths

			<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Under 1 Week (Legitimate)	...	...	5	3	2
Under 4 Weeks (Legitimate)	...	...	7	5	2
Under 1 Year (Legitimate)	...	...	8	5	3

COMPARATIVE RATES

	1960	1959	England & Wales
Live Births:			
Number	243	215	—
Rate per 1,000 population (Crude 17.6) ...	19.0*	17.0*	17.1
Illegitimate Live Births per cent. of total live births	3.7	2.3	5.4
Stillbirths:			
Number	4	3	—
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births...	16.2	13.8	19.7
Total Live and Still Births	247	218	—
Deaths:			
Number	191	161	—
Rate per 1,000 population (Crude 13.8)...	14.1*	11.9*	11.5
Infant Deaths (under one year)	8	3	—
Infant Mortality Rates:			
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	32.9	14	21.7
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	34.2	14.3	—
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	—	—	—
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)...	28.8	4.7	15.6
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births) ...	20.6	0	13.4
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths)	36.4	13.8	32.9
Maternal Mortality (including abortion):			
Number of Deaths	0	0	—
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births...	—	—	0.39
Respiratory Tuberculosis	0	0	0.068
Cancer	2.53	1.83	2.16

* Adjusted 1960 { live birth rate (comparability factor 1.08) = 19.0 per 1,000
death rate (comparability factor 1.02) = 14.1 per 1,000

Causes of Death

	Male	Female	Total
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	5	1	6
" " lung, bronchus	5	3	8
" " breast	0	4	4
" " uterus	0	2	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	8	7	15
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	0	0	0
Diabetes	0	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	20	15	35
Coronary disease, angina	17	11	28
Hypertension with heart disease	2	1	3
Other heart diseases	19	18	37
Other circulatory diseases	3	4	7
Influenza	0	0	0
Pneumonia	2	3	5
Bronchitis	6	1	7
Other diseases of the respiratory system	1	1	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	1	3
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	1	2
Nephritis, Nephrosis	1	1	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	0	1
Congenital malformations	1	2	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6	8	14
Motor vehicle accidents	1	1	2
All other accidents	3	0	3
Suicide	1	0	1
	<u>105</u>	<u>86</u>	<u>191</u>

Deaths — Age Groups

Under 1 year	8
1— 2 "	2
3— 4 "	—
5— 9 "	—
10—14 "	—
15—24 "	3
25—44 "	2
45—64 "	30
65—74 "	59
Over 75 "	87
Total	<u>191</u>

Cancer

There were 35 death from malignant neoplasms of which 8 were due to cancer of the lung and bronchus.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year 1960.
Total Cases Notified and Ages.

Disease	Total No. of Cases	Under 15	1—	2—	3—	4—	5—	10—	15—	25—	45—	65 and over	Cases removed to Hospital
Scarlet Fever ...	7	...	...	...	1	...	4	2	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	12	...	1	...	1	2	7	1	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Measles...	8	...	1	...	2	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Totals ...	30	...	2	...	4	2	16	3	1	...	1	1	...

TUBERCULOSIS — 1960

Age Groups	Notifications				Deaths	
	New Cases		Inward Transfers		Respiratory	Non-Respiratory
	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory		
0—4						
5—9						
10—14		1				
15—19						
20—24						
25—34	2					
35—44						
45—54						
55—64						
65 and over	1					
Total	3	1	—	—		—

The following table gives a summary of known cases of tuberculosis within the rural district at 31st December, 1960.

	Males	Females	Total
Respiratory ...	23	9	32
Non-Respiratory ...	0	6	6
Total ...	23	15	38

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

The National Health Service Scheme was introduced twelve years ago and it would appear that it is functioning very satisfactorily within the area.

The rural district is under the administration of two Divisions of the County Council, namely:—

Health Division 3: Parishes of:—

Hambleton	Out Rawcliffe	Pilling
	Stalmine	

Health Division 4: Parishes of:—

Barnacre-with-Bonds	Bilsborrow	Bleasdale
Cabus	Catterall	Claughton
Forton	Garstang	Great Eccleston
Inskip-with-Sowerby	Kirkland	Myerscough
Nateby	Nether Wyresdale	Upper Rawcliffe-with-
	Winmarleigh	Tarnacre

Health Services

The general health services, including ante-natal, midwifery, School Clinics, health visiting, home helps, etc., are administered by the County Council and appear satisfactory.

Tuberculosis Dispensaries and Venereal Disease Treatment Centres are under the administration of the Regional Hospital Board.

Hospital Accommodation.

There are no hospitals in the area. Cases are sent to Preston, Lancaster, Blackpool, etc.

The district is provided with hospital accommodation for smallpox at Bury and for Infectious diseases at Preston, Blackpool and Lancaster.

Ambulance Service.

This service is also under the control of the Lancashire County Council, with headquarters at Broughton, near Preston, and ambulance stations at Thornton, Fleetwood and Lancaster.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, S.47.

Number of applications made during the year	...	...	Nil
Number of Orders made	...	...	Nil

Laboratory Facilities.

Swabs, specimens of sputum, etc., and samples of milk, ice-cream, water, and other foods for bacteriological and biological examination are submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Preston.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR 1960

COUNCIL OFFICES,
GARSTANG.

*To the Chairman and members of the
Garstang Rural District Council*

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report of the sanitary circumstances of your District for the year 1960.

Water Supply

The District is well supplied from the Fylde Water Board. Approximately 94 per cent. of the dwelling houses (4,084) have an internal supply from this source which is upland surface water of excellent quality. The supply is regularly tested by the Board and the department. During the year the Board laid 8,145 yards of new mains of which 5,923 yards were on the Nether Wyresdale Scheme, and also re-laid 1,067 yards.

Eleven houses receive water from the Manchester Corporation, Thirlmere supply, and the remainder of the houses derive their source of supply from wells and springs.

The total number of houses with an internal piped water supply, from all sources is 4,303 (99 per cent).

Seven houses, previously supplied from private sources, were connected to the Board's mains.

One hundred and twenty-eight samples of water were obtained from private supplies and submitted for bacteriological examination with the following results as compared with the Ministry of Health's recommended standards for non-chlorinated piped supplies:—

Bacteriological:—

Satisfactory 93

Unsatisfactory 35

Details of Water Supplies to Dwelling Houses, Farms, Hotels, etc. 31.12.60.

PARISH	No. of Houses, etc.	FYLDE			TH.		PRIVATE SUPPLIES							CARAVAN SITES			SCHOOLS			
							Burdock			Oak		Cl.		Others			F.	P.	F.	P.
							In	Out	C.	In	Out	In	Out	In	Out	C.				
Barnacre-with-Bonds ...	392	333	—	2	17	—	2	1	—	34	3	—	—	—	3	1				
Bilsborrow ...	99	96	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—				
Bleasdale...	55	1	—	—	—	—	—	14	—	34	6	—	—	—	—	1				
Cabus ...	267	267	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—				
Catterall...	180	179	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—				
Claughton ...	125	73	—	—	—	—	—	—	39	8	5	—	—	—	—	1				
Forton ...	279	266	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	5	7	—	—	—	—	—				
Garstang...	711	711	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—				
Great Eccleston...	242	242	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—				
Hambleton ...	253	252	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—				
Inskip-with-Sowerby ...	152	151	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—				
Kirkland...	93	92	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—				
Myerscough ...	191	188	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—				
Nateby ...	74	74	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—				
Nether Wyresdale ...	167	102	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	49	4	4	1	1	—	—				
Out Rawcliffe ...	174	173	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—				
Pilling ...	444	433	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	2	—	—				
Stalmine ...	227	226	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	5	—	—				
Upper Rawcliffe-with-Tarnacre	143	143	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—				
Winmarleigh ...	85	82	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—				
TOTAL	4,353	4,084	7	11	17	—	2	15	39	137	37	4	24	1	19	3				
KEY : TH.—Thirlmere supply. OAK.—Oakencrough supply. CL.—Claughton supply. F. —Fylde supply. P. —Private supply. C.—Carried.																				

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

The Council undertake the removal of domestic refuse in the twenty parishes.

Collection of household refuse and salvage was carried out by four side-loading vehicles, manned by twelve loaders, inclusive of drivers.

Refuse was disposed of in farm pits situated in various parts of the district.

Every effort is made with the limited number of vehicles, men, and covering material, to dispose of the refuse with as little nuisance as possible.

With the development of the district together with the continued change in the character of domestic refuse, it is suggested that the 1946 Dennis vehicle should be replaced with one of a more modern design.

The amount realised from the sale of salvage was £479.

Sewerage and Drainage.

A start was made on the joint sewerage scheme, with the Preston Rural District for the Bilsborrow, Myerscough, Barton, etc. areas. This is estimated to cost the Garstang Council approximately £58,285.

Modern disposal works, situate at Churchtown, serve Garstang and parts of the parishes of Barnacre-with-Bonds, Cabus, Catterall, Churchtown and Claughton.

In Great Eccleston all the sewers discharge, without treatment, into the tidal waters of the River Wyre.

Other treatment plants are situated in Calder Vale, and the Kenlis Arms area (Barnacre-with-Bonds), Pilling, Scorton (Nether Wyresdale), and at Forton.

Small treatment works are provided for Council estates in the various parish. The majority of the dwelling houses where the sewers are not available are provided with septic tanks, and in those cases where pails and privies still exist every encouragement is given by the Council to owners to convert to fresh water closets with tanks.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION (AT END OF 1960)

Number of middens	53	Number of fresh water closets ..	4,687
Number of closets attached thereto	56	Number of trough closets ..	—
Number of dry ashpits (excluding middens)	—	Number of waste water closets ..	—
Number of pail closets	374	Number of moveable dustbins ..	4,954

CONVERSIONS DURING THE YEAR

Privies to fresh water closets ..	4	Pails to fresh water closets ..	31
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Public Conveniences.

Public conveniences are provided in Garstang, Great Eccleston, Pilling and Scorton.

Routine Inspections

Agricultural Act, 1956	...	...	...	36
Atmospheric Pollution	...	...	...	1
Bakehouses	...	...	...	42
Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	63
Dairies	...	...	...	11
Disinfections	...	...	...	14
Drains	...	...	...	80
Dustbins	...	...	...	30
Egg Packers	...	...	...	12
Factories	...	...	...	143
Fire Escape Certificates	...	...	...	92
Fish Friers	...	...	...	6
Food Inspection	...	...	...	36
Food Preparation Premises	...	...	...	193
Food Shops	...	...	...	137
Hawkers	...	...	...	16
Houses :—				
Applications for Council	...	...	...	151
Certificates of Disrepair	...	...	...	20
Council	...	...	...	124
P.H.A. and Housing Acts	...	...	...	727
Housing :—				
Improvement Grants	...	...	...	153
Standard Grants	...	...	...	298
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	16
Infestation	...	...	...	11
Knackers Yard	...	...	...	27
Markets	...	...	...	30
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	562
Moveable Dwellings	...	...	...	395
Petroleum Regulations	...	...	...	136
Piggeries	...	...	...	50
Poultry Pluckers	...	...	...	94
Public Cleansing	...	...	...	334
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	142
River Pollution	...	...	...	44
Sampling	...	...	...	365
Sanitary Accommodation :—				
Conversions	...	...	...	23
Tanks	...	...	...	10
Schools	...	...	...	43
School Kitchens	...	...	...	17
Shops and Offices	...	...	...	224
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	936
Swill Boilers	...	...	...	45
Water Supplies	...	...	...	36
Total Visits	...	...	...	5925

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION.

Number of slaughterhouses licensed	7
Number of licences issued to slaughtermen during 1960 ...	41

In accordance with Section 3 of the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, the Slaughterhouse Report was submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

The Council, after consulting with the interested parties, accepted the offer made by seven of the slaughterhouse owners and/or occupiers to bring their premises up to the prescribed standards.

Summary of Carcasses Inspected and Condemned.

Figures in () are those for 1959

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	687 (722)	1 (3)	1 (3)	3348 (3699)	6033 (5782)
Number inspected	687 (722)	1 (3)	1 (3)	3348 (3699)	6033 (5782)
All diseases except Tuberculosis :					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (5)	9 (9)
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	148 (257)	0 (0)	0 (0)	48 (166)	732 (943)
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	21.5 (35.6)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1.4 (4.6)	13.9 (16.3)
Tuberculosis only :					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	6 (5)
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	4 (22)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	103 (163)
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	0.6 (3.0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1.8 (2.9)

Number of carcasses of which some part or organ was found
to be affected with cysticercus bovis 3(6)

A Government contribution of £44 10s. 6d. was received
towards the cost of meat inspection for 1959/60.

Food Premises

Number of food premises, by type of business, in district at
end of year:—

General grocers and provision dealers	60
Greengrocers and fruiterers (including those selling wet fish, game, etc.	3
Fishmongers	3
Meat shops, (butchers, purveyors of cooked and processed Meats, etc)	11

Bakers and/or confectioners	4
Fried Fish shops	5
Shops, selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice-cream, etc.	10
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, cafes snack bars	48
Others—School meals/kitchens, etc.	13

Number of food premises, by type, registered under S.16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 or under local Acts:—

<i>Type of Business</i>	<i>No. registered</i>	<i>No. of Inspections</i>
Ice Cream Manufacture and Sale	61	71
Fish Friers	5	6
Sausages, Potted and preserved Food — Manufacture	11	63

Unsound Food.

A total of 6 tons 5 cwt. 3 qrs. 6 lbs. was recorded.

From Slaughterhouses:—

	T.	C.	Qrs.	lbs.
Tubercular meat	1	4	1	25
Non-Tubercular meat	2	8	0	1

It is significant that the incidence of tuberculosis found in the slaughterhouses has considerably decreased during the past few years and in 1960 less than 0.6 per cent. in cattle and 1.8 per cent. in pigs was found.

Special examination of food stocks:—

Type	Quantity examined	Quantity condemned
Pre-packed foods	1747 lbs.	1747 lbs.
Dressed Chickens	4225 lbs.	4225 lbs.

All condemned meat from slaughterhouses is stained green and then either sent to the local Knacker's Yard or to a Processor. Unsound tinned foods are buried at the tip.

MILK SUPPLY.

Number of distributors registered by the local authority and operating from:—

(a) Dairies in the district	1
(b) Shops in the district other than dairies	11

Number of dealers' licences issued during 1960:—

Tuberculin Tested milk	24
Pasteurised milk	18
Sterilised milk	14

Regular sampling of all supplies is carried out for biological and bacteriological examination and the following show the results of the samples taken:

Raw Milk:

	<i>No. of samples</i>	<i>No. Positive</i>	<i>No. Negative</i>
Tuberculosis	63	0	63

	<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>No. Satisfactory</i>	<i>No. Unsatisfactory</i>
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Bacteriological:

Methylene Blue	67	60	7
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	<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>No. Satisfactory</i>	<i>No. Unsatisfactory</i>
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Heat Treated Milk:

Phosphatase Test	8	8	0
------------------	---	---	---

Methylene Blue Test	8	8	0
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Turbidity Test	1	1	0
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Br. Abortus (Undulant Fever):

One hundred and thirty milk samples were also submitted for Br. Abortus and as a result 8 cows were found to be affected. The milk from these cows was diverted from the raw liquid market without the necessity of serving notices under the Milk and Dairies Regulations.

Tuberculosis:

Result of Ministry investigations within the district during the year arising from notifications by any local authority:

Number of herds examined by veterinary inspectors	...	0
„ „ cases where animals seized under Tuberculosis Order, 1938		0
„ „ Animals seized		0
„ „ cases reported negative where animals had been sold prior to investigation		0
„ „ cases reported negative, no animals seized		0

One pasteurising plant is licensed by the County Council.

Ice Cream.

During the year 58 samples of Ice Cream were taken. The following is a table showing the respective grading:—

			<i>Made Out of the District</i>		<i>Made Within the District</i>
Grade 1	...	...	36	...	10
2	...	...	3	...	6
3	...	...	1	...	0
4	...	...	2	...	0
			—	...	—
			42	...	16
			—	...	—

One Ice Lollie sample was satisfactory.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955

During the year, the Lancashire County Council obtained the following samples from within the rural district:—

35 Milk

1 Pork Sausages	1 Teacake	1 Demerara Sugar
2 Beef Sausages	1 Margarine	1 Meat Pie
2 Oats, Breakfast	1 Sweets	1 Double Cream
2 Cooking Fat	1 Cockles Bottled	1 Mustard Paste
1 Vitamin Tablets	1 Coffee Extract	1 Lard
1 Vitamin Capsules	1 Treacle	1 Flour
1 Fruit Tart	1 Sauce	1 Ice Cream

In only one case was it necessary for the County Analyst to give an adverse report, namely:—

Type of sample	Result of analysis	Action taken
Lard	Contained Butylated Hydroxy Anisole	Importers informed

Declaration on label refers to Butylated Hydroxy Toluene.

A complaint was received from a local resident that a live beetle had been found inside a tea cake. After extensive tests and investigations it was found that the complaint was not justifiable.

Markets.

There is one market which is held weekly in Garstang. This is under the control of the Garstang Town Trust and is regularly inspected.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1957

Swill Boilers

Number of licensed plants, 1-1-60	...	...	...	...	7
Number of licences cancelled	...	...	...	...	0
Number of new plants licensed	...	...	...	...	2
Number of licensed plants, 31-12-60	...	...	...	...	9
Total number of inspections during the year	...	...	...	...	45

Offensive Trades.

There is a Knacker's Yard situate in the parish of Catterall which serves a useful purpose for a very wide area. The premises are regularly inspected and the business appears to be well conducted.

Smoke Abatement.

Ten observations were taken on 8 industrial chimneys.

Moveable Dwellings.

Number of licensed caravan sites 25.

Number of licences in force during 1960 for individual caravans 32.

Number of caravans stationed in the district, August, 1960, 1,090. Approximate number of caravanners at the height of the season, 2,250.

The licensed caravan sites, with one exception, have public water supplies and the majority of the sites are provided with fresh-water closets to septic tanks. The sites are generally well conducted and few complaints received.

As a result of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, the standards on caravan sites will eventually be greatly improved. These improvements will apply to holiday sites and to the residential sites on which there are at present approximately 328 families occupying this type of dwelling. Many of these persons, who are elderly, now prefer the caravan to the more conventional type of home.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

There are no public baths within the area, although some bathing takes place in favourable weather in certain parts of the rivers Wyre and Brock.

On one caravan site a swimming pool has been provided for the benefit of the caravanners. The water is pumped from a nearby well and receives no treatment, but circulates continually.

Shops and Offices.

Two hundred and twenty-four inspection were carried out.

The majority of the shops in the area are family concerns, employing few or no assistants.

Schools.

There are twenty-two schools in the rural district.

Water is supplied by the Fylde Water Board to 19 of the schools and at Bleasdale, Calder Vale and Claughton the supplies are from private sources which are sampled regularly.

With the exception of the Bleasdale School (which is still served with obsolete and unhygienic privies) all the others are provided with fresh water closets.

There is still insufficient accommodation at some of the schools although plans are in hand for the erection of certain new schools and alterations.

In several cases there is no hot water to the wash hand basins and repairs are required to yard surfaces.

There are two school kitchens in the area providing mid-day meals for the scholars at several of the schools. Separate kitchens have also been provided at other schools. The standard of these premises is very high.

Housing.

Number of dwelling houses and flats erected during the year:

Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	111
(i) By Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
(ii) By other Local Authorities	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
(iii) By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	...	...	...	93

The Council's housing register revealed at the 31st December, that there were 113 outstanding applications for houses. These were made up as follows:—

- 25 from persons living in rooms.
- 13 from persons living in moveable dwellings.
- 72 from tenants of houses.
- 3 from single persons.

There were also 39 applications for old persons' bungalows.

The Public Health Department is responsible to the House Letting Committee for all lists of applications for council houses and before the submission of these lists investigations are made into each case.

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year—

(1) (a) Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	475
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	595
(2) Dwelling houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit:—	
(a) Number (or estimated number at end of year ...	32
(3) Number of dwelling houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	75

2. Housing Act, 1957. Houses not included in Clearance Areas:—

	No. of Houses	Persons Displaced
(1) Houses demolished or closed during the year		
(i) Demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure	11	10
(ii) Closed	4	2
(iii) Parts of buildings closed	—	—
(2) Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.		
Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers		49

3. Housing Act, 1957—Overcrowding:

At the end of 1960, there was only one case of statutory overcrowding in the housing register, although there was a limited number of cases where the bedroom accommodation was found to be insufficient for the needs of the families.

Special consideration is given by the Council in the rehousing of overcrowded families.

4. Improvement Grants.

	No.	No. of dwelling houses affected
(i) Number of schemes submitted by private individuals to local authority	22	22
(ii) Number of schemes approved ...	22	22
(iii) Number of schemes completed ...	18	18
Total amount of grants paid in connection with the aforesaid 18 schemes, £3,383 10s. 0d.		

5. Standard Grants.

	No. of affected dwellings
(i) Number submitted to local authority	30
(ii) Approved by local authority ...	30
(iii) Works completed ...	17
Amount of grant paid, £1,250 8s. 11d.	

6. Rent Act, 1957

(a) Applications for Certificates of Disrepair:

(1) Number of applications received	2
(2) Number of decisions not to issue certificates ...	—
(3) Number of decisions to issue certificates, in respect of some but not all defects ...	2
In respect of all defects ...	—
(4) Number of undertakings given by landlords under par. 5 of the 1st Schedule ...	2

(b) Applications for Cancellation of Certificates ...

—

Factories.

1.—Inspection of Factories.

No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
104	143	10	0

Outworkers.

Number on register	...	...	...	...	...	2
Type of Work—(a) Raddler						
(b) Crochet Worker						

Defects Found in Factories.

Particulars	Defects		Referred	
	Found	Remedied	by H.M. Inspector	Prosecu- tions
Want of cleanliness ...	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding ...	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature ...	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ...	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors...	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences:				
(a) insufficient ...	3	2	3	—
(b) unsuitable or defective ...	7	5	2	—
(c) not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—
Other offences ...	—	—	—	—

Verminous Persons and Premises.

A small number of infestations (ants, cockroaches, wasps, etc.) were eradicated by proprietary insecticides during the year.

Disinfection.

Disinfection is carried out by means of formalin fumigators and twelve houses were treated by this method during the year.

Rodent Control.

The Council engage one whole-time rodent operative to carry out the functions under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

During the year, 5,664 inspections were carried out and 243 properties treated for rats and mice.

After test baiting, with negative results, a proportion of the manholes on the Council's sewers, it was not found necessary to carry out, during 1960, any further treatment on the sewers.

Petroleum (Regulation) Acts

136 Inspections have been carried out of premises where petroleum spirit is stored.

Conclusion.

In conclusion, I wish to express my sincere thanks to the Medical Officer of Health, other chief officials, and all members of my staff for their valued assistance, and to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their confidence during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. SMITHSON, Chief Public Health Inspector.

